CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) A method comprising:

obtaining a first correction digital signal by scanning a first correction document during black correction, extracting only a plurality of last bits of the first correction digital signal, and storing the extracted last bits of the first correction digital signal in a memory; and

obtaining a second correction digital signal by scanning a second correction document during white correction, extracting only a plurality of first bits of the second correction digital signal, setting the most significant bit of the second correction digital signal to a value of one, and storing the extracted first bits of the second correction digital signal in the same or a different memory;

wherein the extraction and storage of the last bits of the first correction digital signal and the first bits of the second correction digital signal reduces a memory requirement for scanning the correction documents.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 2, wherein the memory comprises a random access memory.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 4, wherein the memory comprises a random access memory.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 8, wherein the image extraction device comprises a charge-coupled device.

10. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 8, further comprising:

scanning the second correction document to obtain a second correction optical signal;

using the image extracting device to obtain a second correction analog signal; and

converting the second correction analog signal into a second correction digital signal.

11. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 10, wherein the image extraction device comprises a charge-coupled device.

12. (Currently amended) An apparatus comprising:

means for obtaining a first correction digital signal, said means for obtaining a first correction digital signal configured to scan a first correction document during black correction, to extract only a plurality of last bits of the first correction digital signal; ~~and~~

means for obtaining a second correction digital signal by scanning a second correction document during white correction, said means for obtaining a second correction digital signal configured to extract only a plurality of first bits of the second correction digital signal[[.]]; and

means for setting the most significant bit of the second correction digital signal to a value of one.

13. (Currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 12, further comprising:

~~means for setting the most significant bit of the second correction digital signal to a value of one; and~~

means for storing the extracted bits after the most significant bit is set.

14. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the extracted bits are stored in a random access memory.

15. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 12, further comprising means for storing the extracted first bits of the second correction digital signal in a memory.

16. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 15, wherein the memory comprises a random access memory.

17. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the first correction document comprises a black correction document.

18. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the second correction document comprises a white correction document.

19. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 12, further comprising :

means for scanning the first correction document to obtain a first correction optical signal;

means for obtaining a first correction analog signal; and

means for converting the first correction analog signal into a first correction digital signal.

20. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 19, wherein the image extraction device comprises a charge-coupled device.

21. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 12, further comprising:

means for scanning the second correction document to obtain a second correction optical signal;

means for obtaining a second correction analog signal; and

means for converting the second correction analog signal into a second correction digital signal.

22. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 21, wherein the image extraction device comprises a charge-coupled device.

23. (Currently amended) A scanning device ~~A storage medium having stored thereon instructions, that, when executed, are further~~ operable to:

obtain a first correction digital signal by scanning a first correction document during black correction, and extract only a plurality of last bits of the first correction digital signal; and

obtain a second correction digital signal by scanning a second correction document during white correction, extract only a plurality of first bits of the second correction digital signal, and set the most significant bit of the second correction digital signal to a value of one.

24. (Currently amended) The scanning device ~~storage medium~~ of claim 23, ~~wherein said storage medium has further instructions stored thereon, that, when executed, are~~ further operable to:

store the extracted last bits of the first correction digital signal in random access memory.

25. (Currently amended) The scanning device ~~storage medium~~ of claim 23, ~~wherein said storage medium has further instructions stored thereon, that, when executed, are~~ further operable to:

store the extracted bits of the second correction digital signal in random access memory.

26. (Currently amended) The scanning device ~~storage medium~~ of claim 23, ~~wherein said storage medium has further instructions stored thereon, that, when executed, are~~ further operable to:

scan the first correction document to obtain a first correction optical signal;

use an image extracting device to obtain a first correction analog signal; and

use an analog/digital converter to convert the first correction analog signal into a first correction digital signal.

27. (Currently amended) The scanning device ~~storage medium~~ of claim 26, ~~wherein said storage medium has further instructions stored thereon, that, when executed, are~~ further operable to:

scan the second correction document to obtain a second correction optical signal;

use the image extracting device to obtain a second correction analog signal; and

use the analog/digital converter to convert the second correction analog signal into a second correction digital signal.

28. (Previously Presented) An image made by a method comprising:

obtaining a first correction digital signal by scanning a first correction document during black correction, and extracting only a plurality of the last bits of the first correction digital signal; and

obtaining a second correction digital signal by scanning a second correction document during white correction, extracting only a plurality of first bits of the second correction digital signal, and setting the most significant bit of the second correction digital signal to a value of one.

29. (Previously Presented) The image of claim 28 made by a method further comprising:

storing the extracted last bits of the first correction digital signal in random access memory.

30. (Previously Presented) The image of claim 28 made by a method further comprising:

storing the extracted last bits of the second correction digital signal in random access memory.

31. (Previously Presented) The image of claim 28 wherein the black correction comprises:

scanning the first correction document to obtain a first correction optical signal;

using an image extracting device to obtain a first correction analog signal; and

using an analog/digital converter to convert the first correction analog signal into a first correction digital signal.

32. (Previously Presented) The image of claim 31 wherein the white correction comprises:

scanning the second correction document to obtain a second correction optical signal;

using the image extracting device to obtain a second correction analog signal; and

using the analog/digital converter to convert the second correction analog signal into a second correction digital signal.

33. (Previously Presented) A method comprising:

obtaining a first correction digital signal by scanning a first correction document during black correction, extracting only a plurality of last bits of the first correction digital signal; and

obtaining a second correction digital signal by scanning a second correction document during white correction, extracting only a plurality of first bits of the second correction digital signal, setting the most significant bit of the second correction digital signal to a value of one.

34. (New) The method according to claim 33, wherein the extracted last bits of the first correction digital signal are stored in a memory.

35 (New) The method according to claim 33, wherein the extracted first bits of the second correction digital signal are stored in a memory.

36. (New) The method according to claim 33, wherein the first correction document comprises a black correction document.

37. (New) The method according to claim 33, wherein the second correction document comprises a white correction document.

38. (New) The method according to claim 33, further comprising:

scanning the first correction document to obtain a first correction optical signal;

using an image extracting device to obtain a first correction analog signal; and

converting the first correction analog signal into a first correction digital signal.